

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 INR-07

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FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7340

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USERDA GERMANTOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L IAEA VIENNA 2646

DEPT PASS IO/SCT, ACDA AND NRC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: IAEA, TECH, PARM

SUBJECT: IAEA REGIONAL FUEL CYCLE CENTERS STUDY

REF: IAEA VIENNA 2488

1. FURTHER TO REFTEL, MISSION HAS OBTAINED COPIES OF LETTERS SENT BY DG EKLUND TO AUSTRIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, SWEDISH AMBASSADOR AND FINNISH AMBASSADOR FORMALIZING EARLIER APPROACHES RE POSSIBLE INTEREST IN ESTABLISHING REGIONAL FUEL CYCLE CENTER. LETTER DIFFER BUT APPROACH IS ESSENTIALLY THE SAME.

2. LETTERS NOTE THAT SECRETARIAT'S WORK ON TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF STUDY, AND TO SOME EXTENT LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL ASPECTS, WILL SOON BE REACHING STAGE WHERE IT CAN BE APPLIED EMPIRICALLY BY GROUPS OF COUNTRIES, AND NOTES DESIRABILITY THAT THIS BE DONE ASAP IN RELATION TO ONE OR TWO SUCH GROUPS.

3. DG PROPOSES THEREFORE THAT, DURING SECOND PART
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OF THIS YEAR, THESE RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES SEND EXPERTS

TO INITIAL MEETING OF INFORMAL WORKING PARTY AT AGENCY'S HEADQUARTERS WHICH WOULD HAVE FOLLOWING TASKS: (A) TO ASCERTAIN AGGREGATE QUANTITIES OF IRRADIATED NUCLEAR FUEL IN THE GROUP OF COUNTRIES THAT WILL HAVE TO BE DEALT WITH BY REPROCESSING OR STORAGE UNTIL 2000. (B) TO CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE STRATEGIES FOR DEALING WITH THIS QUESTION (STORAGE OR REPROCESSING). IF REPROCESSING, TO CONSIDER USE OF EXISTING FACILITIES OR ESTABLISHMENT OR REGIONAL FACILITY OR ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL FACILITIES. (C) IF PRELIMINARY INDICATIONS ARE FAVORABLE FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF REGIONAL CENTER, TO OUTLINE MAIN PARAMETERS OF SUCH A CENTER, SUCH AS: CAPACITY, COST, POSSIBLE METHODS OF FINANCING AND SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION, AND APPROACHES TO CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL REGIME.

4. COUNTRIES DG HAS IN MIND INITIALLY ARE AUSTRIA, FINLAND, SWEDEN AND SWITZERLAND, WITH POSSIBLE INCLUSION OF DENMARK, NORWAY AND SPAIN, IF INTERESTED. PARTICIPATION IN SUCH WORKING PARTY WOULD NOT, OF COURSE, INVOLVE ANY COMMITMENT TO ANY OF THE GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED TO ACCEPT ANY OBLIGATIONS AS RESULT OF THE STUDY. DG'S LETTER CONCLUDES BY NOTING THAT THIS GROUP OF COUNTRIES WAS SELECTED IN VIEW OF THEIR ESTABLISHED TRADITIONS OF COOPERATION AND IN THE HOPE THAT IN CONTRIBUTING TO SUCH PRELIMINARY WORK, THEY WILL HELP THE SECRETARIAT COME TO GRIPS WITH THE PRACTICAL PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN DEALING WITH THE FUEL CYCLE ON A REGIONAL SCALE AND THAT THE WORK MAY IN DUE COURSE ALSO SERVE AS MODEL FOR OTHER REGIONS.

5. COPIES OF FULL TEXTS OF THESE LETTERS BEING HANDCARRIED BY MCNEILL/ACDA.STOND

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